

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In the Claims:

The following Listing of Claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously presented) A method for processing bank notes present as separate deposits, comprising:

detecting information associated with each deposit, including at least one of the beginning or end of each deposit,

feeding the bank notes of each deposit into a separate carrier, each carrier having a unique marking,

detecting the unique marking of each carrier,

joining the information associated with each deposit with the detected marking of each respective carrier,

transporting each carrier to a bank note processing machine, and

detecting the unique marking of each carrier for processing of the respective deposit by the bank note processing machine.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, characterized in that a deposit is subdivided into subunits by feeding at least one separation card, the separation card being recognized during processing of the bank notes so that the subunits of a deposit can be brought to account.

4. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the deposits are formed by one or more bundles of bank notes each having a band, the bands being removed from the bundles before the bank notes of the bundles are fed into the particular carrier.

5. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 4, characterized in that the bands are stored in the order in which they appear in at least one of the deposits or subunits, the bands are removed from storage after successful processing of the associated bank notes, and the bands are provided for at least one of a check or investigation after ascertainment of deviations in at least one of the deposits or subunits.

6. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 4, characterized in that an image of each band is recorded and stored.

7. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 3, characterized in that deviations occurring in subunits of a deposit are balanced against each other.

8. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the deposits of a certain depositor are treated according to specifications coming from the depositor, the specifications being derived from the information.

9. (Previously presented) An apparatus for processing bank notes present as separate deposits, comprising:

a bank note processing machine having a singler, a transport system, a checking device, a delivery device and a control device,

a transport device for transporting carriers containing the deposits to the singler, each carrier having a unique marking,

a first sensor and a second sensor for detecting the unique marking of each carrier,

a third sensor for detecting information associated with each deposit, including at least one of the beginning or end of each deposit, and

a filling position at which the bank notes of each deposit are fed into a separate carrier, each carrier transporting the bank notes of one deposit to the singler for processing,

wherein the information associated with each deposit, detected by the third sensor, is joined with the unique marking of each respective carrier detected by the first sensor, and

wherein the unique marking of each carrier, detected by the second sensor, is used for processing of the respective deposit by the bank note processing machine.

10–11. (Canceled).

12. (Previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 9, characterized in that separation cards are to be fed at the filling position for subdividing the deposits, the separation cards being recognized by the checking device so that an accounting for the bank notes of the deposits can be subdivided.

13. (Previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 9, characterized in that the deposits are formed by one or more bundles of bank notes each having a band, the bands being removed from the bundles at the filling position before the bank notes of the bundles are fed into the particular carrier.

14. (Previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 13, characterized in that a storage device stores the bands in the order in which they appear in at least one of the deposits or subunits, the storage device removes the bands after successful processing of the associated bank notes for disposal, and the storage device provides bands after faulty processing of at least one of the deposits or subunits for at least one of a check or investigation.

15. (Previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 13, characterized in that the third sensor produces an image of each band, said image being stored in the control device.

16. (Canceled)